

January 9, 1980

Senator Marsh requested and she will be able to present this. On the line 9 of this rule change, after the word "Governor" it inserts a phrase, "for override of a line item veto." We forgot in drafting this rule change to note that you can on appropriations measures, override line items so we inserted that in. I appreciate Senator Marsh taking the time to read these and catch that error. Page 6 is probably the one that you are most familiar with. It is suggesting a recess after a period for two weeks, recess after the introduction of bills, that we recess for two weeks. The idea there is to give committees a chance to prepare a calendar, to give people a chance to look at bills, to consider them, to research them prior to the hearing. There has been a feeling that perhaps committee hearings come too close upon introduction of the bill. And the final proposed rule change is on page 7 which indicates that the previous question shall be made and it inserts "only in the normal course of speaking order" and then says, "and shall be in order when demanded by five or more members." It also gives the presiding officer the power to rule the previous question out of order if in the presiding officer's opinion a full and fair debate has not been afforded. So that someone could not simply have a motion up there to rule the previous question right after the opening debate, that the presiding officer would have the discretion to say, I think the body needs more debate. Those are the proposed miscellaneous rule changes. I would move these seven as a package. I will move to expedite things. Several people have said that we hope this won't go on too long so I will move these seven as a package. Now there is then amendments that can be offered and we would then take those up. I would be open to questions on these seven rule changes. I probably should explain where they came from. That might be helpful. At the end of last session a study resolution was introduced, LR 168, that created a committee to look at a wide variety of aspects of the Legislature, its structure, its staffing, a whole range of things. Rules were just part of that study. Senator Lewis designated me as chairman of that committee and eight members were appointed. We divided into subcommittees to consider the various issues. The subcommittee that looked at rules were Senator Beutler, Senator Landis and Senator Schmit. They developed proposals that were brought to this LR 168 Study Committee. The study committee then reviewed those, altered some, rejected some and forwarded the rest to the Rules Committee. The Rules Committee then which is Senator Kahle, Beutler, Murphy, Newell and